

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting
February 11, 2010
Minutes

Voting Council Members Present: Chairman Gary Kendell, Katrina Carter-Larson via phone, Cyndy Erickson, Kevin Frampton, Richard Doyle, Paul Stageberg, Kathy Stone, Eric Snyder, David Lorenzen via phone, John Garringer, Jane Larkin, Chris Wilson via phone and Brian Vos.

Non-Voting Members Present: Stephan Arndt via phone, Col. Michael Jensen, and Pat Reinert via phone.

Guest: Stephanie Rose, U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District via phone.

Staff: Dale Woolery, Becky Swift, Susie Sher and Becky Bell.

Welcome and introductions

Chairman Kendell called the meeting to order shortly after 1:00 p.m. Council members and guest introduced themselves.

The minutes of the November 12, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Congressionally Directed Funding Requests

Gary reported that he'd recently returned from a trip to Washington, D.C., where he met with congressional staffers regarding future funding. Based on his conversations he was able to tell DPAC members that the budgets for a couple of our key discretionary funding streams had been zeroed out and that the Byrne-JAG formula grants will receive level funding.

Gary distributed a list of discretionary funding requests that ODCP had submitted to the Iowa congressional delegation. He reported that several of the initiatives have received funding in the past, and that there are several new prevention initiatives for which funding is being sought.

Other Funding Updates

Gary thanked Council members for their efforts to remove ODCP from the state reorganization bill.

ODCP has federal funding to be used for an interdiction project and is in the process of hiring two part-time coordinators to manage 50 interdiction projects around the State.

ODCP also received funding for an electronic pseudoephedrine tracking program. The vendor that has been selected by the task force charged with project oversight is Appriss, a computer software company serving the criminal justice community. ODCP is now working on the administrative rules. The goal is to have the program running by no later than July 1.

Becky Swift provided a brief update about the U.S. Department of Education Grant for Preventing or Reducing Alcohol Abuse at Institutes of Higher Education

Legislative Update

ODCP introduced a bill for electronic alcohol monitoring, which would give the courts an additional sentencing option for offenders. We also continue to track the Salvia divinorum bill, which was introduced last year. To date, neither bill has gotten much attention from the Legislature.

Department of Corrections Treatment Update

Katrina Carter-Larson reported that due to funding cuts, treatment staff at the institutions has been laid off. This has caused a reduction in substance abuse treatment programming.

Department of Public Health Update

Kathy Stone distributed two handouts, one describing substance abuse services within the Division of Behavioral Health and the other describing their "Access to Recovery" program. She then provided a brief overview the handouts and of the Division.

DPAC Meeting Format

Becky Swift lead a discussion about the current DPAC meeting schedule and asked Council members for feedback regarding the meeting format and the yearly retreat. Based on this discussion, it was determined that a half-day, rather than full-day retreat would be more beneficial and that the meetings prior to the November release of the Drug Control Strategy have a great focus on preparing the document. It was also suggested that Council members continue to be asked to provide more in-depth descriptions of their agency/association/discipline during the meetings.

If anyone has any other thoughts please feel free to contact Gary or Becky Swift.

Agency/Association Updates

Cyndy Erickson reported on "Race to the Top" federal dollar for schools. She also stated that Safe and Drug Free Schools funding is coming to an end this year.

Jane Larkin stated that AC4C would be hosting "Youth Day on the Hill" on February 22, 2010.

Kevin Frampton stated that they are seeing a resurgent of meth and meth labs throughout the State.

Becky Swift reported that the Drug Endangered Children mini-grant had been posted to the Iowa Grants Management System. Local Drug Endangered Children Alliances are eligible to apply for up to \$6,000. Grants are due February 19. The Statewide DEC Conference will be held April 5 at the Meadows Events and Convention Center.

Col. Jensen reported at the Midwest Counter Drug Training Center is going through some personnel changes as persons are being deployed. He is also pursuing additional funding for the Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) program, but to date has not had any success.

Brian Vos stated that two of the biggest legislative challenges for the Iowa State Sheriff's and Deputies Association are weapons access and the Ed Thomas bill, which is related to involuntary mental health committals and the hospitals need to contact law enforcement when those with involuntary committals are released.

John Garringer stated that the substance abuse treatment and prevention world is going through very tight economic times. Communities his agency serves are facing high employment which means significantly lower insurance collections and client fees. He indicated that many treatment/prevention agencies are experiencing similar difficulties. It will mean fewer counselors in communities and more waiting time for services.

Kathy Stone said that her department is working to maintain the prevention and treatment infrastructure.

Richard Doyle reported that the Judicial Branch, like other state government entities, is reeling from budget cuts. He is concerned about the access to justice in rural areas.

Paul Stageberg reported a bill that would affect CJJP Advisory Council membership and would establish a public safety advisory board within CJJP that would conduct the research similar to that of a sentencing commission.

Dave Lorenzen reported that the Chief and Peace Officers Association hosted a public meeting for public safety agencies on January 4 during which they decided on five legislative issues.

Gary reported that ODCP is going to be moving to Mercy Capitol at the end of March.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held May 13, 2010, with meeting location announced later.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Bell